

Claims

5 1. In a communication system, a method for informing a mobile station of a
downlink data frame time offset comprising:
determining said downlink data frame time offset;
transmitting said downlink data frame time offset from a cell to
said mobile station.

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2. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said downlink data frame
offset is included in an Active Set Update message and said communication
system is operating according to WCDMA standard.

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3. The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:
receiving a time offset measured by said mobile station,
wherein said determining said downlink data frame time offset is
based on said time offset measured by said mobile station.

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4. The method as recited in claim 3 wherein said receiving said time offset is
performed via a measurement report message transmitted by said mobile
station.

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5. The method as recited in claim 3 further comprising:
adjusting timing of a time offset adjuster in said mobile station for
adjusting data symbol timing according to said downlink data frame time offset
and for identifying corresponding data symbols for a soft combining operation.

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6. The method as recited in claim 5 further comprising soft combining said
corresponding data symbols.

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7. An apparatus in a communication system comprising:

2 a receiver configured to receive a downlink data frame time offset
transmitted from a cell to a mobile station;

4 a time offset block for adjusting data symbol timing according to
said downlink data frame time offset.

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8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said receiver and said time offset block
2 are included in said mobile station.

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9. An apparatus in a communication system comprising:

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means for determining a downlink data frame time offset;

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a transmitter for transmitting said downlink data frame time
offset via an Active Set Update message from a cell to a mobile station,
wherein said message is for informing said mobile station of said
downlink data frame time offset.

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10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said means for determining and said
2 transmitter are included in a communication base station including said cell
and a base station controller.

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11. An apparatus in a communication system comprising:

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means for determining a downlink data frame time offset;

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a transmitter for transmitting said downlink data frame time
offset via an Active Set Update message from a cell to a mobile station,
wherein said message is for informing said mobile station of said
downlink data frame time offset;

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a receiver for receiving said downlink data frame time offset via
said Active Set Update message;

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10 a time offset adjuster in said mobile station for adjusting data
symbol timing according to said downlink data frame time offset.